Senior ALERT



BEWARE "TAX REDUCTION" FEES

OUR OFFICE HAS RECEIVED dozens of calls from seniors who are asking about a "school tax reduction" offer or a "property tax freeze" for the elderly. A company with an official-sounding name is apparently trying to charge seniors \$55 to register for tax deferments and exemptions that are available for free.

Texas Tax Code, Section 33.06, allows taxpayers 65 years of age or older to defer their property taxes until their estates are settled after death. In addition, exemptions on homesteads are available to homeowners free of charge. You may wish to contact your county tax assessor/collectors office for more information about these provisions. You will not have to pay \$55 to benefit from them.

Fortunately, the seniors who have called us were not fooled by the solicitation they received. We are glad they called and appreciate their timely information. If we find that the solicitation they received is misleading or deceptive under Texas consumer protection laws, rest assured that we will act swiftly.

Greg Abbott

Attorney General of Texas